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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Yukihiko NANSHO

Serial No.: 09/846,358

Filed: May 2, 2001

Atty. Docket No.: 01309.00012

Group Art Unit: 3625

Examiner: THIEN, M. T.

AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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APR 20 2004

GROUP 3600

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 4, 2004, please amend the instant application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the Listing of Claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.